

EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support

STANDING COMMITTEES
OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC SAFETY, CHAIR
EDUCATION, VICE CHAIR
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW

SUBCOMMITTEES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, CHAIR
BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 2
SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 3
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HIGHER EDUCATION

California State Senate

SENATOR
BRUCE MCPHERSON
FIFTEENTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
CHAIRMAN
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY



JOINT COMMITTEES
JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS
JOINT COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP
A MASTER PLAN FOR EDUCATION
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
SELECT COMMITTEES
OF THE SENATE
ANTI-TERRORISM POLICY, CHAIR
BAY AREA INFRASTRUCTURE
BAY AREA TRANSPORTATION
CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM
CALIFORNIA'S HORSE RACING INDUSTRY
CALIFORNIA'S WINE INDUSTRY
COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY
ADMISSIONS AND OUTREACH
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT
SCHOOL SAFETY
TECHNOLOGICAL CRIME
AND THE CONSUMER

August 3, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1130 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

Dear Chairman Morabito,

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to express my support for the Monterey County Agricultural and Historical Land Conservancy in their attempt to secure a grant for the purchase of a conservation easement on the Dolan Ranches located in Monterey County.

The Dolan ranches consist of over 600 acres that include 160 acres of wetlands adjacent to the community of Castroville and 440 acres of prime farmland in both the Castroville area and the Arroyo Seco area of Greenfield. The open space wetlands is habitat for the resting and nesting of many species of birds that visit the Moro Cojo Slough and Elkhorn Slough areas. The Dolan ranches are among some of the Monterey County properties that are under intense development pressures having a conservation easement would alleviate some of that pressure by protecting the 160 acres of wetlands and the 440 acres of prime farmland.

As a member of the Coastal Conservancy and Senator of this district, I could not be more supportive of this grant. I am confident that it will be extremely beneficial in the protection of rapidly disappearing agricultural and environmentally sensitive lands in Monterey County. I strongly encourage you to give their request for assistance every consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce McPherson".

Senator Bruce McPherson
15th District

BAM/tm

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

cc: Sherwood Darington, Monterey County Agricultural and Historical Land Conservancy, Inc.

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STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0028
(916) 319-2028
FAX: (916) 319-2128

DISTRICT OFFICE
100 WEST ALISAL ST., SUITE 134
SALINAS, CA 93901
(831) 759-8676
FAX: (831) 759-2961

Assembly California Legislature



SIMÓN SALINAS
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TWENTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT

CHAIR
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEES
AGRICULTURE
HEALTH
HOUSING & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
TRANSPORTATION
VETERANS AFFAIRS

SELECT COMMITTEE
ON RURAL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT (Chair)

August 3, 2005

Mr. Paul Morabito
Chairman, Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94129

Dear Mr. Morabito:

This is a letter of strong support of the Monterey County Agricultural and Historical Land Conservancy's grant request to the California Coastal Conservancy for the purchase of a conservation easement on the Dolan Ranches that are located in Monterey County.

The Dolan ranches consist of over 600 acres that include over 160 acres of wetland that will be protected by a separate conservation easement. This grant from the California Coastal Conservancy will be utilized in the protection of these wetlands.

In addition to the wetlands that are located in the coastal zone, a companion easement on 240 acres of prime farmland in the coastal zone will also be protected.

The Dolan family is committed to retaining over 160 acres of this property in open space wetlands habitat. This will be for the resting and nesting of the many species of birds that visit the Moro Cojo Slough and Elkhorn Slough areas, while preventing the conversion of prime irrigated farmland in the coastal zone to non-agricultural uses.

Thank you for giving your full consideration to this grant request.

Sincerely,

Assemblymember Simón Salinas
District 28

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

MONTEREY COUNTY

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LOUIS R. CALCAGNO, SUPERVISOR - SECOND DISTRICT

PATRICIA BARTLETT HUTCHINS, AIDE TO THE SUPERVISOR



August 2, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito
Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito,

I would like to express my strong support for placing the Dolan Ranches, which includes 160 acres of wetlands adjacent to the community of Castroville and 440 acres of prime farmland in both the Castroville area and the Arroyo Seco area of Greenfield, under the control of a land conservancy. Both of these ranches are important areas with intense development pressures. Placing the development rights into the hands of the land conservancy will add to the protection of rapidly disappearing agricultural and environmentally sensitive lands in Monterey County.

Respectfully yours,

Louis R. Calcagno
Supervisor, 2nd District
County of Monterey, Board of Supervisors

LRC: hg
cc: Sherwood Darington

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support



July 29, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito:

American Farmland Trust supports the request of the Monterey County Agricultural and Historical Land Conservancy's for a Coastal Conservancy grant to purchase a conservation easement on the Dolan Ranches located in Monterey County.

The Dolan Ranches encompass more than 600 acres, including 160 acres of wetlands that will be protected by a conservation easement with the Coastal Conservancy grant. These wetlands are habitat for the resting and nesting of the many species of birds that visit the Moro Joho Slough and Elkhorn Slough areas. An additional 240 acres of prime farmland outside the coastal zone will also be protected by a separate easement.

This is an outstanding example of how agriculture and the natural environment can be reconciled and protected for public benefit, and we urge you to help make it happen.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "ET" followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Edward Thompson, Jr.
California Director

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COMMITTEES
CHAIR, ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY &
TOXIC MATERIALS
JUDICIARY
LABOR & EMPLOYMENT
NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, RETIREMENT
& SOCIAL SECURITY
REVENUE & TAXATION
SELECT COMMITTEES:
CHAIR, CALIFORNIA WATER NEEDS &
CLIMATE CHANGE
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Assembly
California Legislature
JOHN LAIRD
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TWENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT



STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 842848
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(916) 319-2027
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701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 318B
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
PHONE: (831) 425-1503
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MONTEREY AND SANTA CLARA COUNTIES
99 PACIFIC STREET, SUITE 555-D
MONTEREY, CA 93940
PHONE: (831) 649-2832
FAX: (831) 649-2935

Friday, September 10, 2004

Sam Schuchat
California Coastal Conservancy
11th Floor, 1330 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Dolan Ranch Conservation Easement (04-055)

Dear Mr. Schuchat:

I write in support of your grant to the Monterey County Agricultural and Historical Conservancy for their project related to Dolan Ranch in Monterey County. I have worked with this conservancy in the past and they are well regarded for their professionalism and experience in acquiring conservation easements.

The Dolan Ranch property sits adjacent to the Elkhorn Slough national estuary, which is regarded as a state and national treasure. A conservation easement on this property will benefit both flora and fauna, and enhance the overall ecosystem health of the Elkhorn Slough complex. This project holds promise as a model for future acquisitions of sensitive properties in agricultural regions, by bringing together the Coastal Conservancy and the Department of Conservation.

I hope your board sees the value of this project and approves funds for its use. Given the value of the land along the Central Coast, the \$1 million investment from the Coastal Conservancy is an excellent use of funds.

If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact Reed Addis in my Monterey office, 831 649-2935.

Sincerely,

JOHN LAIRD
Assemblymember, 27th District

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